

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

ATTORNEY'S REQUEST NUMBER

2603.2

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/889742

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/IP00/00246

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
20 January 2000

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
20 January 1999

TITLE OF INVENTION

METHOD FOR QUANTITATING TRIGLYCERIDES IN LIPOPROTEINS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Kazuhiro Miyauchi, et al.

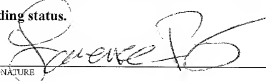


Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern other document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.
18. ☒ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information: Copies of: PCT Request (Form PCT/RO/101) with translation, Form PCT/IB/304, Form PCT/IB/3/308 and Form PCT/IB/332

09/889742 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Search Report has been prepared by the EP or JPO \$860.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)) \$690.00 No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492 (a)(1)) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492(a)(2)) \$710.00 Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$1,000.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492 (a)(4)) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$860.00 Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). \$ <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Claims</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Number Filed</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Number Extra</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Rate</th> <th style="width: 20%;"></th> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Claims</td> <td>33 - 20 =</td> <td>13</td> <td>X \$18.00</td> <td>\$234.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Claims</td> <td>7 - 3 =</td> <td>4</td> <td>X \$80.00</td> <td>\$320.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)</td> <td>+ \$270.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</td> <td>\$1684.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2. </td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">SUBTOTAL =</td> <td>\$1684.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). </td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</td> <td>\$1684.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property + </td> <td>\$40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</td> <td>\$1724.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">Amount to be:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">refunded</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: right;">charged</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </table> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>1724.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>06-1205</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p> <p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <p>Lawrence S. Perry FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10112 Tel: (212) 218-2100 Fax: (212) 218-2200</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  SIGNATURE Lawrence S. Perry NAME <u>31 865</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER </p>	Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		Total Claims	33 - 20 =	13	X \$18.00	\$234.00	Independent Claims	7 - 3 =	4	X \$80.00	\$320.00	Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)				+ \$270.00	TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$1684.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				\$	SUBTOTAL =				\$1684.00	Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$1684.00	Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). 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PATENT APPLICATION

In re Application of:)	
KAZUHIITO MIYAUCHI, ET AL.)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)	Group Art Unit: N/Y/A
Filed: Currently herewith)	
For: METHOD FOR QUANTITATING)	
TRIGLYCERIDES IN)	
LIPOPROTEINS)	July 19, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 13-15, 17 and 18. A marked-up copy of the Claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

13. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol kinase (GK) and glycerol 3-phosphate oxidase (GPO).

14. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol oxidase (GO).

15. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the method for quantitating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with peroxidase (POD) and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and quantitating the pigment as absorbance.

17. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the method for eliminating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with POD and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and eliminating the pigment enzymatically.

18. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the sample containing TGs in lipoproteins is a serum or plasma sample.

REMARKS

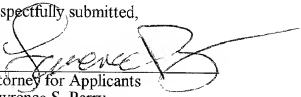
Claims 13-15, 17 and 18 have been amended to correct their dependency and conformity with accepted U.S. practice.

No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

13. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in [any one of] Claim[s 1 to 12] 12, wherein the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol kinase (GK) and glycerol 3-phosphate oxidase (GPO).

14. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in [any one of] Claim[s 1 to 12] 12, wherein the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol oxidase (GO).

15. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in [any one of] Claim[s 1 to 14] 12, wherein the method for quantitating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with peroxidase (POD) and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and quantitating the pigment as absorbance.

17. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in [any one of] Claim[s 1 to 16] 12, wherein the method for eliminating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with POD and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and eliminating the pigment enzymatically.

18. (Amended) The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in [any one of] Claim[s 1 to 17] 12, wherein the sample containing TGs in lipoproteins is a serum or plasma sample.

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JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 JUL 2001

DESCRIPTION

Method for Quantitating Triglycerides in Lipoproteins

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a method for quantitating triglycerides (TG) in lipids, which are significant in a field of clinical laboratory test, particularly, as a risk factor of arteriosclerosis.

Background Art

At present, in a field of clinical laboratory test, cholesterol in high density lipoprotein (HDL) is frequently determined as a risk factor, i.e., negative factor, of arteriosclerosis, while cholesterol in low density lipoprotein (LDL) is also determined as a positive factor. On the other hand, it has been elucidated by many epidemiological searches that hyperlipemia is a primary factor in development of an arteriosclerotic disease which is accompanied by an ischemic heart disease as a major symptom. In addition, among apoproteins E of very low density lipoproteins (VLDL), E1 is incorporated in the receptor, but E2 relating to III type hyperlipemia is not [Arteriosclerosis, 25 (11/12), 415-420 (1998); Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, 172 (5), 276-280 (1995)]. Thus, the lipoproteins have so far been mentioned as a risk factor of arteriosclerosis in various

aspects.

In recent years, it has been said that the difference in the kind and quantity of lipids contained in lipoproteins is involved in various diseases. Among them, it has also been reported that LDL, particularly, small dense LDL is a positive factor for closely related arteriosclerosis in a familial hyperlipemia. Small dense LDL is produced from VLDL by action of a TG catabolic enzyme. The ratio of the TG content to the cholesterol content has been altered in the small dense LDL in comparison with normal LDL, and the TG content is increased [Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, 164 (12), 833-836 (1993)]. It has been considered, accordingly, that high TG concentration in LDL (an index of small dense LDL) enhances the risk of arteriosclerosis.

As for a method for specifically quantitating TG in each lipoprotein, for example, a colorimetry or other such method can be considered. In the colorimetry, each lipoprotein is fractionated by ultracentrifugation, and then TG contained in the fraction is treated, for example, with an enzyme system comprising lipoprotein lipase (LPL), glycerol kinase (GK) and glycerol-3-phosphate oxidase to generate hydrogen peroxide, with which a chromogen is developed together with a peroxidase (POD). This method, however, is very troublesome because it requires a great deal of time and effort for ultracentrifugation.

Disclosure of the Invention

The purpose of the present invention is to provide a method for conveniently quantitating triglycerides (TGs) contained in various lipoproteins.

In serum or plasma samples, there are free glycerol and TG in various lipoproteins. In the invention, TG contained in a particular lipoprotein among these diverse lipoproteins is intended to be specifically quantitated without isolation of the aimed lipoprotein. For this purpose, free glycerol having an influence on the quantitation have to be converted into some inert form somehow, as well as TGs contained in lipoproteins other than the particular one have to be altered in advance or inhibited so that they cannot be involved in the reaction.

The present invention relates to a method for quantitating TGs in a particular lipoprotein which comprises eliminating free glycerol from a sample containing free glycerol and TG in the particular lipoprotein, then allowing the resulting sample to react with lipoprotein lipase (LPL) and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from glycerol produced in said reaction, and quantitating the generated hydrogen peroxide.

As for samples containing TGs in lipoproteins, test specimens such as serum, plasma, and the like are exemplified.

LPL means an enzyme (EC.3.1.1.34) which has a function decomposing TGs in lipoproteins into glycerol and fatty acids.

The enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from glycerol includes a system containing glycerol kinase (GK) (EC.2.7.1.30) which has a function to convert glycerol into glycerol-3-phosphate in the presence of ATP and glycerol-3-phosphate oxidase (GPO) (EC.1.1.3) which generate hydrogen peroxide from glycerol-3-phosphate, as well as a system containing glycerol oxidase (GO) (EC.1.1.3.21) which generates hydrogen peroxide from glycerol as a substrate.

In one embodiment of the present invention, the method for eliminating free glycerol comprises decomposing glycerol with an enzyme system, which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, to yield hydrogen peroxide, and then eliminating said hydrogen peroxide generated.

After removal of glycerol by such a method, TG of a particular lipoprotein can be quantitated as follows. The resulting sample is allowed to react, in the presence of a reagent that inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular lipoprotein, with LPL and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from glycerol generated in this reaction, and quantitating the generated hydrogen peroxide.

The reagent that inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one includes surfactants which inhibit the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular

one and/or aggregating agent or the like for lipoproteins other than the particular one.

In order to facilitate generation of glycerol from TG of a particular lipoprotein by LPL, it is also possible to use a surfactant and/or an enzyme which allows the reaction of a particular lipoprotein, in the course of quantitation after elimination of free glycerol.

In another embodiment of the present invention, in eliminating free glycerol, it is also possible to choose a method for eliminating free glycerol, which method comprises converting TGs in lipoproteins other than particular one into free glycerol at the same time.

For example, hydrogen peroxide is generated in the presence of a reagent which allows the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one using LPL and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, and then the resulting hydrogen peroxide is eliminated. Thus, all of TGs other than TG of a particular lipoprotein can be eliminated.

After the elimination reaction, the sample is allowed to react with LPL and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from glycerol, and the generated hydrogen peroxide is quantitated. Thus, TG contained in a particular lipoprotein can be quantitated.

The reagent allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one includes surfactants which inhibit the

reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one and/or aggregating agents for the particular lipoprotein.

In order to facilitate generation of glycerol from TG of a particular lipoprotein by LPL, it is also possible to add a surfactant and/or an enzyme which allows the reaction of a particular lipoprotein after elimination of free glycerol and TG of lipoproteins other than the particular one.

According to the present invention, the following reagents are provided: reagents for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one or a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GK, GPO and peroxidase; or reagents for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one or a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GO and peroxidase. In addition to a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, it is possible to add a surfactant and/or an enzyme which allows the reaction of the particular lipoprotein.

In addition, according to the present invention, the following reagents are provided: reagents for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one or

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In measurement of TG in HDL, it is preferable to add a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than HDL, such as an aggregating agent for lipoproteins other than HDL which prevents decomposition of TG in LDL and VLDL by LPL, a surfactant for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than HDL, and the like, in order to prevent occurrence of errors in the results of measurement of TG content in HDL, which errors are caused by coexistence of TGs in lipoproteins (specifically, LDL and VLDL) other than HDL.

For example, addition of a sample, GK and GPO or GO to an aqueous solution containing a buffer agent generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol in the sample. Then, an enzyme, e.g., catalase, which eliminates the hydrogen peroxide generated, or one of coupling-type chromogens and peroxidase are added to the reaction mixture concurrently, and allowed to react at 10 to 50°C, preferably 25 to 40°C, for 3 to 10 minutes, preferably 4 to 5 minutes.

In this reaction, the free glycerol contained in the sample is completely eliminated.

Subsequently, LPL, or LPL and a surfactant for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than HDL are added to the reaction mixture to generate glycerol from TG in HDL. Thus, hydrogen peroxide is generated from the resulting glycerol with GK and GPO or GO in the reaction mixture. In this situation, when one of coupling-type chromogens and peroxidase have been

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maltotetrose, maltopentose, maltohexose, maltoheptose, etc.; the salt includes sodium salts, potassium salts, lithium salts, ammonium salts, magnesium salts, etc. The bivalent metal salt includes magnesium salts, calcium salts, manganese salts, nickel salts, cobalt salts, and the like, and the magnesium salts are particularly preferred.

The polyanion may preferably be used in an amount of 0.1 g/L to 50 g/L. For example, 0.02 to 10 mM heparin of molecular weight 5000 to 20000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 10 mM phospho-tungstic acid of molecular weight 4000 to 8000 or salts thereof, 0.01 to 5 mM dextran sulfate of molecular weight 10000 to 500000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 20 mM dextran sulfate of molecular weight 1000 to 10000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 50 mM sulfated cyclodextrin of molecular weight 1000 to 3000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 50 mM sulfated oligosaccharide of molecular weight 400 to 3000 or salts thereof, or their mixture, and the like are preferably used. More preferably, 0.03 to 1 mM heparin of molecular weight 14000 to 16000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 3 mM phosphotungstic acid of molecular weight 5000 to 7000 or salts thereof, 0.01 to 5 mM dextran sulfate of molecular weight 150000 to 250000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 10 mM dextran sulfate of molecular weight 1000 to 5000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 10 mM sulfated cyclodextrin of molecular weight 1000 to 2000 or salts thereof, 0.1 to 10 mM sulfated oligosaccharide of molecular weight 400 to 2000 or salts

thereof, or their mixture, and the like are used.

As for the bivalent metal salt, 0.1 to 50 mM magnesium salts, calcium salts, manganese salts, nickel salts, cobalt salts, and the like may be used, and preferably, 0.1 to 50 mM magnesium salts are used.

As for the antibody aggregating lipoproteins other than HDL, anti-apo-B antibody, anti-apo-C antibody, and the like are exemplified. The anti-apo-B antibody or the anti-apo-C antibody includes IgG fractions of anti-apo-B antiserum or anti-apo-C antiserum, respectively, which are prepared by immunizing rabbits with apoprotein B or apoprotein C purified from human serum, then applying the resulting anti-apo-B antiserum or anti-apo-C antiserum to ammonium sulfate precipitation, followed by salting-out, or alternatively they may be anti-apo-B monoclonal antibody or anti-apo-C monoclonal antibody prepared by immunizing mice with said apoprotein B or said apoprotein C (Monoclonal Antibody; Introduction of Experimental Procedure, Tamie Ando, Kodansha Scientific, page 21, 1991).

As PEG, 0.3 to 100 mM PEG of molecular weight 4000 to 25000 is preferably used, and more preferably 1.0 to 50 mM PEG of molecular weight 5000 to 22000 is used.

As for the surfactant which inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than HDL, polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl ether, polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl phenyl ether,

polyoxyethylene glycol-polyoxypropylene glycol condensate [Pluronic F-68, Pluronic F-88 (Asahi Denka Kogyo KK), etc.], polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl ether sulfate, surfactants such as alkylbenzenesulfonate disclosed in Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 8-201393, surfactants referred to as low foaming wetting penetrants including polyoxyethylene glycol derivatives such as Emulgen 220, Emulgen 913, Emul 20C, Emulgen B-66, etc., anionic surfactants such as dodecylbenzene-sulfonates, etc., and surfactants of bile acid type such as cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, etc., are exemplified. Preferably, Pluronic F-68, Pluronic F-88 (Asahi Denka Kogyo KK), etc., Emulgen 220, Emulgen 913, Emul 20C, Emulgen B-66, dodecylbenzenesulfonates, and the like are exemplified. The concentration of the surfactant is preferably in a range of 0.01 to 5%.

(2) When the particular lipoprotein is LDL:

In a measurement method of TG in LDL, TGs in lipoproteins other than LDL (specifically, HDL and VLDL) are converted into free glycerol, which is then eliminated completely together with free glycerol in the sample. Thus, TG in LDL can be quantitated specifically. In carrying out the quantitation of TG in LDL, TGs in lipoproteins other than LDL are allowed to react with LPL in the presence of a reagent allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than LDL, for example, polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl phenyl ether [HLB (index of

and the other coupling-type chromogen or said surfactant and LPL are added to the reaction mixture. Thus, TG in LDL is decomposed to yield glycerol, which is further decomposed with an enzyme system of GK and GPO or GO contained in the reaction mixture to generate hydrogen peroxide. In order to quantitate the generated hydrogen peroxide, when one of coupling-type chromogens and peroxidase have been added in advance, the other chromogen is added to the reaction mixture, or alternatively when catalase has been added, a coupling-type chromogen and peroxidase are added. Then, the mixture is allowed to react at 10 to 50°C, preferably 25 to 40°C, for 2 minutes or longer, preferably 3 to 10 minutes.

According to the above-mentioned method, TG in LDL can be quantitated specifically.

In order to facilitate practice of the enzyme reaction, a co-factor such as ATP required for the reaction of GK may be added to the buffer.

The surfactant used in elimination of TGs in lipoproteins other than LDL, which allows the reaction of lipoproteins other than LDL, includes those as described in the example of the above-mentioned quantitation of HDL, as well as other agents of relatively high HLB such as Emulgen A-60 or the like. Specifically, in addition to the above-mentioned surfactants, polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl phenyl ether such as Nonion NS-220, NS-230, NS-240, HS-220, HS-240, etc., are exemplified. These

are emulsifying agents for rubber or plastics, and most of them have HLB of 15 or higher. These may be used as a mixture. In general, HLB has additivity and it is common knowledge that the high HLB agent can be used in combination with the lower HLB one to properly adjust an HLB value. The concentration of the surfactant is preferably in a range of 0.01 to 5 %.

As for the polyanions, bivalent metal salts, and antibodies aggregating LDL used in elimination of TGs in lipoproteins other than LDL, the polyanions, bivalent metal salts, and antibodies aggregating lipoproteins other than LDL as described in the example of the above-mentioned HDL quantitation and the like are exemplified.

As the surfactant which allows the reaction of LDL, non-ionic surfactants in which LDL is soluble, for example, Emulgen 709, Triton X-100, Triton DF-16, Triton L0-5, etc. are used alone or in combination. Specifically, a surfactant having high solubilizing ability, such as Triton DF-16 (Sigma), Emulgen 709 (Kao Corporation), etc. are exemplified. The concentration of the surfactant is preferably in a range of 0.01 to 5 %.

As for the enzyme, usually commercially available LPL, GK, GPO, GO, peroxidase, and the like are exemplified. In order to further enhance specificity and stability of these enzymes, enzymes chemically modified with a group containing polyoxyethylene glycol as a major part, a group containing

polypropylene glycol as a major part, a group containing a sugar moiety in its structure such as water-soluble oligosaccharide residue, sulfopropyl group, polyurethane group, and the like, are used. Alternatively, an enzyme which is made by taking out the gene of said enzyme by genetic manipulation and introducing it into another microorganism for expression or a chemically modified derivative thereof, or an enzyme which is made by applying said gene to modification and expression or a chemically modified derivative thereof, or the like may preferably be used.

The reagents for modifying the enzyme (chemical modifiers) are exemplified by: a compound in which polyoxyethylene glycol is bound to a group to which an amino group can be bound [e.g., Sunbright VFM4101 (made by NOF Corporation) in which polyoxyethylene glycol is bound to a group to which an amino group can be bound, e.g. N-hydroxysuccinimido group]; Sunbright AKM series, ADM series, and ACM series [these are made by NOF Corporation; Journal of Chemical Engineering of Japan, Vol. 20, No. 3, 459 (1994)] having a polyoxyalkylene glycol structure and an acid anhydride structure; a compound comprises polyoxyethylene glycol and polyoxypropylene glycol which is bound to a group to which an amino group can be bound; a copolymer of polyoxyethylene glycol monomethacryl monomethyl ether and maleic anhydride; and the like. In addition, a chemical modifier for polyurethane, i.e.,

Polyurethane P4000 activated (made by Boehringer Mannheim GmbH; Explanatory leaflet for Enzyme modification set), a chemical modifier for dextran, i.e., Dextran T40, TCT-activated (the same as above), 1,3-propanesultone, and the like may be used. Using these chemical modifiers, the enzymes may be modified with a group containing polyoxyethylene glycol as a major part, a group containing polyoxypropylene glycol as a major part, a group containing a copolymer of polyoxypropylene glycol and polyoxyethylene glycol, a group containing a sugar moiety in its structure, a sulfopropyl group, a polyurethane group, and the like.

The following is an example of a method for reacting an enzyme with the above-mentioned chemical modifiers, but the present invention is not limited thereto. First, an enzyme is dissolved in a buffer of pH 8 or higher such as HEPES buffer, to which, for example, 0.01 to 500 equimolar amount of Sunbright is added at 0 to 50°C, and the mixture is stirred for 5 to 60 minutes. This reaction mixture is used directly, or, if required, after removal of low molecular materials through an ultrafiltration membrane.

The necessary amount of the enzyme used in the present invention is, preferably, 0.1 to 20 unit (U)/ml for LPL, 0.2 to 30 U/ml for GK, 1 to 50 U/ml for GPO, 1 to 100 U/ml for peroxidase, and 2 to 200 U/ml for GO. The amount of ATP necessary for use of GK is 0.05 mg/ml to 5 mg/ml.

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The chromogen preferably used in detection of hydrogen peroxide includes a combination of 4-aminoantipyrine with a phenol such as phenol, 4-chlorophenol, m-cresol, 3-hydroxy-2,4,6-triiodobenzoic acid (HTIB), etc.; a combination (coupling-type chromogen) of 4-aminoantipyrine with an aniline known as a Trinder reagent (Dojindo Laboratories, General Catalogue 19th ed., 1994) such as N-sulfopropylaniline, N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-m-toluidine (TOOS), N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethylaniline (MAOS), N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethoxyaniline (DAOS), N-ethyl-N-sulfopropyl-m-toluidine (TOPS), N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethoxyaniline (HDAOS), N,N-dimethyl-m-toluidine, N,N-disulfopropyl-3,5-dimethoxyaniline, N-ethyl-N-sulfopropyl-m-anisidine, N-ethyl-N-sulfopropylaniline, N-ethyl-N-sulfopropyl-3,5-dimethoxyaniline, N-sulfopropyl-3,5-dimethoxyaniline, N-ethyl-N-sulfopropyl-3,5-dimethylaniline, N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-m-anisidine, N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)aniline, N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethoxyaniline, etc., or N-ethyl-N-(3-methylphenyl)-N'-succinylethylenediamine (EMSE), N-ethyl-N-(3-methylphenyl)-N'-acetyletthylenediamine, N-ethyl-N-sulfopropyl-3,5-dimethoxy-4-fluoroaniline, N-sulfopropyl-3,5-dimethoxy-4-fluoroaniline, N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethoxy-4-fluoroaniline, N-(2-hydroxy-

3-sulfopropyl)-3,5-dimethoxy-4-fluoroaniline, and the like. In addition, it is possible to use 10-(N-carboxymethylaminocarbonyl)-3,7-bis(dimethylamino)phenothiazine (MCDP), bis[3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)methyl-4-dimethylaminophenyl]amine (BCMA), or the like. The concentration of these chromogens is preferably in a range of 0.02 to 2 g/L.

In the present invention, a buffer agent with which a solution can have buffering action can be used. The preferred buffer agent includes phosphates, borates, organic acid salts, and Good's and Tris buffer agents. The concentration of the buffer is preferably 10 to 200 mM. Preferred pH range is 5 to 9.

Brief Description of Drawings

Fig. 1 shows the absorbance versus time measured with a reagent for measuring total TG for HDL, LDL and VLDL fractions.

Fig. 2 shows the absorbance versus time for HDL, LDL and VLDL fractions measured by the method in Example 1.

Fig. 3 shows the absorbance versus time for HDL, LDL and VLDL fractions measured by the method in Example 2.

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

The followings are working examples.

Example 1

Measurement of TG in LDL

Reagent 1 (pH 6.25)	Buffer [Piperazine-1,4-bis(2-ethanesulfonic acid)(PIPES)]	50mM
	TOOS (Dojindo Laboratories)	0.3g/L
	ATP 2Na salt (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	2.5g/L
	Ascorbic acid oxidase (Asahi Kasei Corporation)	3kU/L
	GK (Toyobo Co., Ltd.)	1kU/L
	GPO (Asahi Kasei Corporation)	8kU/L
	Peroxidase (Toyobo Co., Ltd.)	20kU/L
	PEG modified LPL (Toyobo Co., Ltd.)	1.5kU/L
	LPL III (Amano)	60kU/L
	Nonion NS-230 (NOF Coporation)	0.1%
	Magnesium sulfate heptahydrate (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	0.5g/L
Reagent 2 (pH 6.25)	Buffer (PIPES)	50mM
	Emulgen 709	0.6%
	Triton DF-16	0.3%
	4-Aminoantipyrine (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	0.5g/L

The specificity was confirmed by tracing the time course under the condition of the following parameters using a Hitachi

Auto-Analyzer 7170. As a sample, HDL, LDL and VLDL fractions fractionated from human serum by ultracentrifugation were used. Fig. 1 shows the time course measured with a reagent for measuring total TGs (Kyowa Medex Co., Ltd.) for TG contained in each lipoprotein, and Fig. 2 shows the time course measured with the above-mentioned reagents. In treatment with the reagent for measuring total TG, all of TGs contained in each lipoprotein are involved in the reaction. On the other hand, in treatment with the above-mentioned reagents, free glycerol and TGs in HDL and VLDL in the sample react first in the first reaction to generate hydrogen peroxide, which is eliminated by catalase at the same time. At the time when the reagent 2 is added, the reaction occurs only in LDL. Thus, a system for specifically quantitating TG in LDL was established. In addition, serum samples of healthy subjects were directly analyzed as samples without fractionation using the same Hitachi 7170 machine into which the following parameters were input. As standard solutions, the above-mentioned LDL fractions were used, of which the values were measured with a Determiner L TG (made by Kyowa Medex Co.) and input as parameters into the analyzer.

Thus resulting analytical values were compared with those obtained by the following method as a comparative one. The correlation coefficient was 0.918.

(Comparative Method)

According to the standard method for measuring HDL provided by US CDC, each sample was ultracentrifuged, and total TGs were quantitated for the resulting HDL and LDL fractions (TG(L+H)). The specified fractionating agent (heparin-manganese) was added thereto, and the difference of TG(H) value for the precipitated and separated HDL, [TG(L+H)-TG(H)], was used.

(Parameters)

Analytical method: 2 point end

Photometric point: 16 - 34, range; 10 minutes

Measuring wavelength: 546 nm; Side wavelength: 700 nm

Sample volume: 3.2 μ l

Reagent volume: R1: 240 μ l; R2: 80 μ l

Example 2

Measurement of TG in HDL

Reagent 1 (pH 6.25)	Buffer (PIPES)	50mM
	TOOS (Dojindo Laboratories)	0.3g/L
	ATP 2Na salt (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	2.5g/L
	Ascorbic acid oxidase (Asahi Kasei Corporation)	3kU/L
	GK (Toyobo Co., Ltd.)	1kU/L
	GPO (Asahi Kasei Corporation)	8kU/L
	Catalase (Sigma)	300kU/L
	Sodium dextransulfate	0.2g/L

	Magnesium sulfate heptahydrate (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	0.5g/L
Reagent 2 (pH 6.25)	Buffer (PIPES)	50mM
	Emulgen B-66 (Kao Corporation)	20g/L
	Calcium chloride dihydrate	0.1g/L
	4-Aminoantipyrine (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.)	0.5g/L
	Sodium azide	0.5g/L
	LPL (Asahi Kasei Corporation)	1000kU/L
	Peroxidase (Toyobo Co., Ltd.)	20kU/L

The specificity was confirmed by tracing the time course under the condition of the following parameters using a Hitachi Auto-Analyzer 7170. As a sample, the same HDL, LDL and VLDL fractions fractionated from human serum by ultracentrifugation as Example 1 were used. As shown in Fig. 3, in treatment with the reagent 1 in the first reaction, free glycerol reacts first to generate hydrogen peroxide, which is eliminated by catalase at the same time. At the time when the reagent 2 is added, the reaction occurs only in HDL. Thus, a system for specifically quantitating TG in HDL was established. In addition, serum samples of healthy subjects were directly analyzed as samples without fractionation using the same Hitachi 7170 machine. As standard solutions, the

above-mentioned HDL fractions were used, of which the values were measured with a Determiner L TG (made by Kyowa Medex Co., Ltd.) and input as parameters into the analyzer.

Thus resulting analytical values were compared with those obtained by the following method as a comparative one. The correlation coefficient was 0.911.

(Comparative Method)

According to the standard method for measuring HDL provided by US CDC, each sample was ultracentrifuged. The specified fractionating agent (heparin-manganese) was added to the resulting HDL and LDL fractions, and the TG value of the HDL portion in the supernatant obtained by precipitation and separation was used.

(Parameters)

Analytical method: 2 point end

Photometric point: 16 - 34, range; 10 minutes

Measuring wavelength: 546 nm; Side wavelength: 700 nm

Sample volume: 3.2 μ l

Reagent volume: R1: 240 μ l; R2: 80 μ l

Industrial Applicability

According to the present invention, a method for conveniently quantitating TGs contained in various lipoproteins is provided. Particularly, quantitation of TG in LDL affords an index of the yield of small dense LDL, which

may relate to prevention of arteriosclerosis.

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Claims

1. A method for quantitating triglyceride (TG) in a particular lipoprotein which comprises eliminating free glycerol from a sample containing free glycerol and TG in the particular lipoprotein, then allowing the resulting sample to react with lipoprotein lipase (LPL) and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, and quantitating the generated hydrogen peroxide.

2. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the method for eliminating free glycerol comprises yielding hydrogen peroxide with an enzyme system, which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, and then eliminating hydrogen peroxide generated.

3. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the generated hydrogen peroxide is quantitated in the presence of a reagent which inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular lipoprotein.

4. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the reagent that inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one includes a surfactant which inhibits the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one and/or an

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the presence of a reagent which allows the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one using LPL and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, and then eliminating hydrogen peroxide generated.

10. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the reagent allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one is a surfactant which allows the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one and/or a aggregating agent for the particular lipoprotein.

11. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the surfactant and/or the enzyme that allows the reaction of the particular lipoprotein is added after elimination of free glycerol and TGs in lipoproteins other than the particular one.

12. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 10 or 11, wherein the particular lipoprotein is low density lipoprotein (LDL), and the surfactant allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one used in elimination of hydrogen peroxide is polyoxyethylene glycol alkyl phenyl ether (HLB 15 or higher) or a polyoxyethylene glycol derivative which is a low foaming wetting penetrant.

13. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 12, wherein

the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol kinase (GK) and glycerol 3-phosphate oxidase (GPO).

14. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 12, wherein the enzyme system that generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol is a system containing glycerol oxidase (GO).

15. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 14, wherein the method for quantitating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with peroxidase (POD) and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and quantitating the pigment as absorbance.

16. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the chromogen is a combination of 4-aminoantipyrine and Trinder reagent.

17. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 16, wherein the method for eliminating hydrogen peroxide comprises allowing hydrogen peroxide to react with POD and a chromogen to yield a pigment, and eliminating the pigment enzymatically.

18. The method for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 17, wherein the sample containing TGs in lipoproteins is a serum or plasma sample.

19. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GK, GPO and POD.

20. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GO and POD.

21. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GK, GPO and POD.

22. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one, LPL, GO and POD.

23. The reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein as claimed in Claim 21 or 22, which contains a surfactant and/or an enzyme that allows the reaction of the particular lipoprotein.

24. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one or a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one in the final reaction mixture, LPL, GK, GPO and POD.

25. A reagent for quantitating TG in a particular lipoprotein containing a reagent for inhibiting the reaction

of lipoproteins other than the particular one or a reagent for allowing the reaction of lipoproteins other than the particular one in the final reaction mixture, LPL, GO and POD.

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ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a method for conveniently quantitating TGs contained in various lipoproteins. A method for quantitating triglyceride (TG) in a particular lipoprotein which comprises eliminating free glycerol from a sample containing free glycerol and TG in the particular lipoprotein, then allowing the resulting sample to react with lipoprotein lipase and an enzyme system which generates hydrogen peroxide from free glycerol, and quantitating the generated hydrogen peroxide, is provided.

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Fig. 1

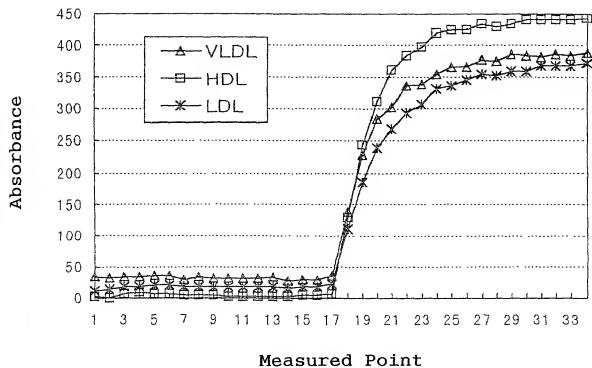


Fig. 2

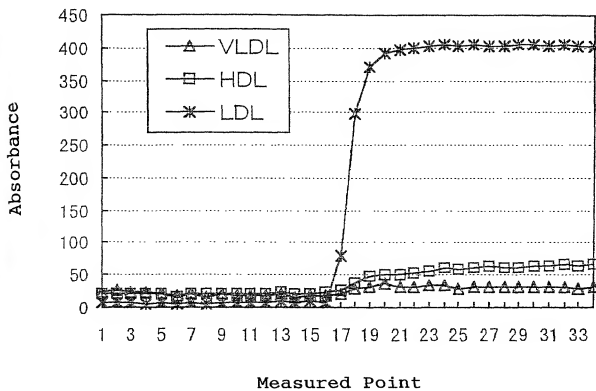
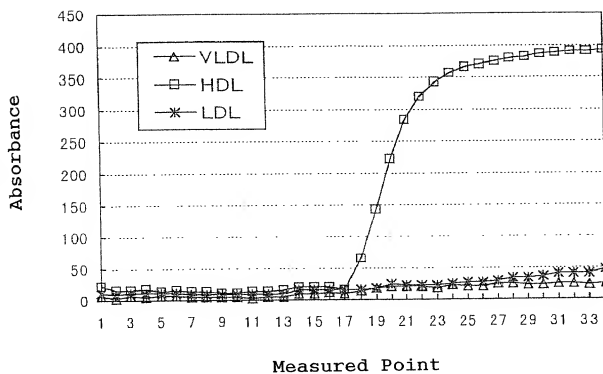


Fig. 3



COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT COOPERATION TREATY APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled Method for Quantitating Triglycerides in Lipoproteins

the specification of which was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/00246 on January 20, 2000 and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

Country	Application No.	Filed (Day/Mo./Yr.)	Priority Claimed (Yes/No)
Japan	11-12434	20/01/1999	Yes

I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the firm and Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to the address associated with that Customer Number:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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